

**BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
HUMBOLDT BAY REPOWERING PROJECT
BY PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY**

DOCKET NO. 06-AFC-7
(AFC ACCEPTED 11/08/06)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND SITE VISIT

On September 29, 2006, Pacific Gas and Electric Company ("Applicant or PG&E") filed an Application for Certification (AFC) with the California Energy Commission to construct and operate the Humboldt Bay Repowering Project (HBRP), which has a combined nominal generating capacity of 163 megawatts (MW). This project will be located on 5.4 acres within a 143-acre parcel currently occupied by the existing PG&E Humboldt Bay Power Plant located in Eureka, California, Humboldt County. The Energy Commission has exclusive jurisdiction to license this project and is considering the proposal under a twelve-month review process established by Public Resources Code section 25540.6. The twelve-month period began November 8, 2006, and may be extended if receipt of necessary information is delayed.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Energy Commission has designated a Committee of two Commissioners to conduct proceedings on the AFC. The Committee has scheduled a public informational hearing and site visit to discuss the proposed project as indicated below:

DATE	MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2006
TIME	Site Visit begins at 1:00 pm Public Informational Hearing begins at 2:00 pm. Staff Data Request Workshop begins at 3:30 p.m.
LOCATION	PG&E's Humboldt Bay Power Plant Assembly Building 1000 King Salmon Avenue Eureka, CA 95503 [Wheelchair Accessible]

Following the site visit, members of the public are invited to attend an Informational Hearing. The Applicant will provide transportation to the site. **For reservations, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser at 916-654-4489 or 1-800-822-6228 or e-mail at: [pao@energy.state.ca.us].**

Background

The power plant licensing process, which incorporates requirements equivalent to the California Environmental Quality Act, reviews all relevant engineering and environmental aspects of the proposed project. During the twelve-month review period, the Energy Commission will determine whether the Applicant complies with all applicable laws related to public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering requirements. The twelve-month review process will also provide a public forum for governmental agencies, adjacent landowners, and members of the general public to consider the advantages and disadvantages of the project, and to propose changes, mitigation measures, and alternatives as necessary.

Purpose of the Informational Hearing

The informational hearing and site visit scheduled by this Notice are sponsored by the Energy Commission to inform the community about the project and to view the project site. Representatives from PG&E will explain plans for developing the project and related facilities. Energy Commission Staff will explain the administrative licensing process and the Staff's role in reviewing the AFC.

Project Description

The proposed site is located at 1000 King Salmon Avenue, Eureka, California on 5.4 acres within a 143-acre parcel currently occupied by the existing PG&E Humboldt Bay Power Plant. The HBRP will be a load following power plant consisting of ten (10) natural gas-fired Wärtsilä 18V50DF 16.3 megawatt (MW) reciprocating engine-generator sets and associated equipment with a combined nominal generating capacity of 163 MW. The HBRP will also be capable of running on California Air Resources Board (CARB)-certified diesel fuel in order to ensure local area reliability during instances of natural gas curtailment in the region as required by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and PG&E's CPUC Gas Tariff Rule 14. This project is a replacement of the existing 105 MW Units 1 and 2 and the two 15 MW Mobile Emergency Power Plants (MEPP) at PG&E's Humboldt Bay Power Plant site.

Air emissions from the proposed facility would be controlled using best available control technology applied to each engine's exhaust. In order to be considered for licensing by the Energy Commission, the project would be required to conform with rules and regulations of the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District and be issued a Determination of Compliance from the air quality management district.

The HBRP proposes using approximately 2,400 gallons of water per day (2.7 acre-feet/year) on average for cooling or other industrial purposes. The generators will use an air radiator cooling system in a closed loop system (similar to automobiles). Raw water for industrial processes and site landscape irrigation will be supplied from PG&E's existing ground water well via a direct connection to an onsite 6-inch-diameter water pipeline.

The project would be connected from the generators to the existing switchyard via two 60 kilovolt (kV) tie lines and one 115-kV tie line. No new transmission lines will be required. Natural gas would be supplied to the HBRP via an onsite 10-inch-diameter, high-pressure, natural gas pipeline owned and operated by PG&E.

If approved, construction of the project could start in early spring 2008. Pre-operational testing of the power plant would begin in summer of 2009, and full commercial operation is expected to begin by fall of 2009.

Relevant engineering and environmental details of the project are described in the AFC. Copies of the AFC are available at the local public agencies involved in the review process and at the following libraries:

San Diego Public Library 820 E Street San Diego, CA	UCLA, Research Library 405 Hilgard Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90024	Humboldt Library 1313 3rd Street Eureka, CA 95501	Humboldt State University Library One Harpst Street Arcata, CA 95521
California State Library 914 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814	San Francisco Public Library 100 Larkin Street San Francisco, CA 94102	Humboldt Library Arcata Branch 500 7 th Street Arcata, CA 95521	Humboldt Library 807 Main Street P.O. Box 397 Ferndale, CA 95536
Humboldt Library Fortuna Branch 775 14th Street Fortuna, CA 95540	Humboldt Library Rio Dell Branch 715 Wildwood Avenue Dell, CA 95562	Fresno County Library Central Headquarters 2420 Mariposa Street Fresno, CA 93721	

Proposed Schedule and Issue Identification Report

To assist participants in understanding the process, Energy Commission Staff shall file a proposed schedule for reviewing the project and an Issue Identification Report ("report") summarizing the major issues. Staff's report shall indicate whether Applicant's data responses have been timely filed and whether additional information is necessary to resolve issues of concern. Staff's schedule and report shall be filed by **5 p.m.**, November 30, 2006.

Copies of these documents will be posted on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at: **[www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/humboldt]**. Printed copies may be obtained from the Public Adviser or the Staff Project Manager as described below.

Public Adviser and Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser is available to assist the public in participating in the project review process. For general information on how to participate, please contact Margret J. Kim, the Public Adviser, at 916-654-4489 or 1-800-822-6228 or e-mail: **[pao@energy.state.ca.us]**. If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in this event, contact Lourdes Quiroz at 916-654-5146 or e-mail at: **[lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Information

Technical questions concerning the project should be addressed to John Kessler, the Staff Project Manager, at 916-654-4679 or e-mail at: **[jkessler@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Questions of a legal or procedural nature should be directed to Gary Fay, the Hearing Officer, at 916-654-3893 or e-mail at: **[gfay@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Media inquiries should be directed to Claudia Chandler, Assistant Executive Director for Media and Public Communications at 916-654-4989 or e-mail at: **[mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Information concerning the status of the project, as well as notices and other relevant documents, may be viewed on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at: **[www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/humboldt]**.

Dated November 17, 2006, at Sacramento, California.

JOHN L. GEESMAN
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Humboldt AFC Committee

JEFFREY D. BYRON
Commissioner and Associate Member
Humboldt AFC Committee

Driving Directions:

At approximately 3 miles south of downtown Eureka on Highway 101,
Exit at King Salmon Avenue;
Head west on King Salmon Avenue;
Turn right into the entrance to Humboldt Bay Power Plant;
Park in the area immediately inside the gate and to the left;
The Assembly Building is adjacent to the parking area

Click below for a map:

<http://maps.yahoo.com/#mvt=m&q1=King%20Salmon%20Avenue,%20eureka,%20ca&rf=0&lon=-124.210315&lat=40.735747&mag=1>